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Item 14 of the provisional agenda*
Provisional agenda and documentation for the thirtieth session of the Statistical Commission

Proposals for the provisional agenda and documentation for the thirtieth session of the Statistical Commission

Note by the Secretariat

Addendum

Summary

The present note contains outlines of documents requested for the thirtieth session of the Statistical Commission under agenda items 4, "International economic and social classifications", 5, "Statistical implications of recent major United Nations conferences", 8, "Service statistics", and the proposed additional item "Demographics, social and migration statistics".

* E/CN.3/AC.1/1998/L.1

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Agenda as approved by the Economic and Social Council

4. International economic and social classifications

Document requested

Report of the Secretary-General on international economic and social classifications

Proposed outline

I. Status of recommendations

II. Additional work accomplished

Annex. Report of the Fourth Meeting of the Expert Group on International Economic and Social Classifications

Section I will review the actions taken by the Statistical Commission and activities carried out in response to requests of the Commission. It will cover actions taken by the United Nations Statistics Division to coordinate economic and social classifications, paying particular attention to a strategic plan of action for future classifications work; international agreement on basic principles for the development and use of international classifications; publishing and dissemination of the Central Product Classification, Version 1.0; revision of classifications of expenditure according to purpose; development of trade-in service classifications; strategies for bridging differences between commodity nomenclatures; increased development and use of classifications database management techniques; and central registration of problems regarding consistency of concepts and measurement of the newly prepared Central Product Classification, Version 1.0.

Section II will cover additional work, including the conducting of international training workshops; extension of the Classifications Hotline to provision of classifications services using the World Wide Web; and identifying the custodians or official points of contact of the family of international economic and social classifications, and increasing collaboration among them.

5. Statistical implications of recent major United Nations conferences

Documents requested

Report of the Secretary-General on implementation and use of the Minimum National Social Data Set

Proposed outline

I. Trial compilation of Minimum National Social Data Set, using national data reported to international agencies

   A. Availability of data at the international level

   B. Use of supplementary national sources

   C. Conclusions: coverage, timeliness, comparability and reliability of the data available; use of standard international definitions

II. Implementation and uses of the Minimum National Social Data Set to follow up recent major United Nations conferences

   A. National level

   B. International level

Report on the seminar on poverty statistics, organized by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, in collaboration with other regional commissions

Proposed outline

I. Approaches to the measurements of poverty in national and international organizations

II. Methodology questions and information requirements for the measurement of poverty

A. The income or consumption insufficiency method: poverty income lines

1. Establishment of standards

2. Measurement of standards

3. Conceptual and operative problems associated with the measurement of household income and consumption

4. Public social expenditures

5. Equivalences in consumption and scale economies

6. Poverty measurement

7. Sources of information

8. Requirements for the dynamic analysis of poverty

B. The unmet basic needs method

1. Selection of social indicators and threshold definitions

2. The aggregation problem

3. Comparison in time and space

4. Sources of information

5. Unmet basic needs maps and geographical information systems

C. Relative measures of poverty

III. Poverty groups profiles as a basis for the design and evaluation of anti-poverty policies

1. Scope for and limitations of diagnosis purposes and poverty analysis

2. Improvement of the national statistical capacity in this area

3. Reporting results and disseminating information

4. Towards a basic set of information and social indicators at the national level

8. Service statistics

Documents requested

Report of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Service Statistics

Proposed outline

The report will provide an overview of activities completed by the Task Force to address the recommendation of the Statistical Commission to ensure consistency between the fifth edition of the *Balance of Payments Manual*, the Central Product Classification (CPC), Version 1.0, the System of National Accounts 1993, and the manual on trade in services statistics proposed by the Task Force. The Commission also recommended that the contents of the proposed manual be consistent with the findings of Working Party No. 9 of the Industry Committee on Industrial Statistical Globalization of the Organization for Economic

Cooperation and Development. The Statistical Commission will be informed that the Task Force has requested that its name be changed to "Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services" in order to more accurately reflect its current mandate, which focuses on problems related to the collection of data on trade in services.

Draft manual on trade in services statistics

Proposed outline

I. Introduction

II. Conceptual framework

III. Classifications

IV. Transactions between residents and non-residents

V. Transactions between residents and in the globalization context

VI. Definitions of service items

Proposed additions to the agenda

Demographic social and migration statistics

Documents proposed

Progress report on demographic, housing, social and gender statistics, including draft recommendations for vital statistics and civil registration systems

Proposed outline

I. Population and housing censuses

  A. Census costs

  B. 2000 World Population and Housing Census Programme

II. Civil registration and vital statistics

III. Social statistics

  A. Human settlements and city statistics

  B. Crime and criminal justice statistics

  C. Impairment, disability, and handicap statistics

  D. Gender statistics

Draft recommendations on vital statistics and civil registration systems

Proposed outline

I. Uses of registration records and vital statistics

II. The vital statistics system

III. The civil registration system as a source of data on vital statistics

IV. Evaluation of the quality and completeness of civil registration and vital statistics systems

V. Recommended strategies for improving civil registration and vital statistics systems

VI. Interrelationship between the population register and the civil registration and vital statistics systems

VII. Other data collection methods and techniques providing vital statistics and rates

VIII. The role of sampling in the processing of data for vital statistics